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BY AUTHORITY.

LAW OF THE UNITED STATES

PASSED AT THE FIRST SESSION OF 27TH CONGRESS.

[PUBLIC.—No. 10.]

AN ACT to appropriate the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, and to grant pre-emption rights.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the thirty-first day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-one, there be allowed and paid to each of the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Alabama, Missouri, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Michigan, over and above what each of the said States is entitled to by the terms of the compact entered into between them and the United States, upon their admission into the Union, the sum of ten per centum upon the net proceeds of the sales of the public lands, which, subsequent to the day aforesaid, shall be made within the limits of said States respectively: *Provided*, That the sum so allowed to the said States, respectively, shall be in no wise affected or diminished on account of any sums which have been heretofore or shall be hereafter, applied to the construction or continuance of the Cumberland road, but that the disbursements for the said road shall remain as heretofore, chargeable on the two per centum fund provided for by compact with several of the said States.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That after deducting the said ten per centum, and what, by the compact aforesaid, has heretofore been allowed to the States aforesaid, the residue of the net proceeds— which net proceeds shall be ascertained by deducting from the gross proceeds all the expenditures of the year for the following objects: salaries and expenses of the General Land Office; expenses for surveying public lands; salaries and expenses in the surveyor general's office; salaries commissions and allowances to the registers and receivers; the five per centum to new states—of all the public lands in the United States, wherever situated, which shall be sold subsequent to the said thirty-first day of December, shall be divided among the twenty-six states of the Union and the District of Columbia, and the Territories of Wisconsin, Iowa and Florida, according to the respective federal representative population as ascertained by the last census, to be applied by the Legislatures of the said states to such purposes as the said Legislatures may direct: *Provided*, That the distributive share to which the District of Columbia shall be entitled, shall be applied to free schools, or education in some other form, as Congress may direct; and *provided also*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to the prejudice of future applications for a reduction of the price of the public lands, or to the prejudice of applications for a transfer of the public lands, on reasonable terms to the states within which they lie, or to make such future disposition of the public lands or any part thereof, as Congress may deem expedient.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the several sums of money received in the treasury as the net proceeds of the sales of the public lands shall be paid at the Treasury half yearly, on the first day of January and July in each year, during the operation of this act, to such person or persons as the respective Legislatures of the said states and territories, or the Governors thereof in case the Legislatures shall have made no such appointment, shall authorize and direct to receive the same.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That any sum of money, which at any time may become due and payable to any state in the Union, or to the District of Columbia, by virtue of this act, as the portion of said state or district of the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, shall be first applied to the payment of any debt due and payable from the said state or district, to the United States; *Provided*, That this shall not be construed to extend to the sums deposited with the states under the act of Congress of twenty-third June, eighteen hundred and thirty-six, entitled "an act to regulate the deposits of the public money," nor to any sums apparently due to the United States as balances of debts growing out of the transactions of the Revolutionary war.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That this act shall continue and be in force until otherwise provided by law, unless the United States shall become involved in war with any foreign power, in which event, from the commencement of hostilities, this act shall be suspended during the continuance of such war; *Provided, nevertheless*, That if, prior to the expiration of this act, any new state or states shall be admitted into the Union, there be assigned to such new state or states, the proportion of the proceeds accruing after their admission into the Union, to which such state or states may be entitled, upon the principles of this act, together with what such state or states may be entitled to by virtue of compact to be made on their admission into the Union.

Sec. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That there shall be annually appropriated for completing the surveys of said lands a sum not less than one hundred and fifty thousand dollars; and the minimum price at which the public lands are now sold at private sale shall not be increased, unless Congress shall think proper to grant al-

ternate sections along the line of any canal or other internal improvement, and at the same time to increase the minimum price of the sections reserved; and in case the same shall be increased by law, except as aforesaid, at any time during the operation of this act, then so much of this as provides that no net proceeds of the sales of the public lands shall be distributed among the several states shall, from and after the increase of the minimum price thereof cease and become utterly null and of no effect, anything in this act to the contrary notwithstanding; *Provided*, That if, at any time during the existence of this act, there shall be an imposition of duties on imports inconsistent with the provisions of the act of March second, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-three, entitled "an act to modify the act of the fourth of July one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, and all other acts imposing duties on imports," and beyond the rate of duty fixed by that act, to wit, twenty per cent. on the value of such imports, or any of them, then the distribution provided in this act shall be suspended, and shall so continue until this cause of its suspension shall be removed; and when removed, if not prevented by other provisions of this act, such distribution shall be resumed.

Sec. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That the secretary of the Treasury may continue any land district in which is situated the seat of Government of any one of the states, and may continue the land office in such district, notwithstanding the quantity of land unsold in such district may not amount to one hundred thousand acres, when, in his opinion, such continuance may be required by public convenience, or in order to close the land system in such state at a convenient point under the provisions of the act on the subject, approved twelfth June, one thousand eight hundred and forty.

Sec. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That there shall be granted to each state specified in the first section of this act five hundred thousand acres of land for purposes of internal improvement; *Provided*, That to each of the said states which has already received grants for said purposes there is hereby granted no more than a quantity of land which shall, together with the amount such state has already received as aforesaid, make five hundred thousand acres; the selections in all of the said states to be made within their limits respectively in such manner as the Legislatures thereof shall direct; and located in parcels, conformably to sectional divisions and subdivisions, of not less than three hundred and twenty acres in one location, on any public land except such as is or may be reserved from sale by any law of Congress or proclamation of the President of the United States, which said locations may be made at any time after the lands of the United States in said states respectively shall have been surveyed, according to existing laws. And there shall be and hereby is granted to each new state that shall be hereafter admitted into the Union, upon such admission so much land as, including such quantity as may have been granted to such state before its admission, and while under a Territorial Government, for purposes of internal improvement as aforesaid, shall make five hundred thousand acres of land, to be selected and located as aforesaid.

Sec. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That the lands herein granted to the states above named shall not be disposed of at a price less than one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, until otherwise authorized by a law of the United States; and the net proceeds of the sales of said lands shall be faithfully applied to objects of internal improvement within the states aforesaid respectively, namely: roads, railways, bridges, canals and improvement of water courses, and when made or improved, shall be free for the transportation of the United States' mail, and munitions of war, and for the passage of their troops, without the payment of any toll whatever.

Sec. 10. *And be it further enacted*, That from and after the passage of this act every person, being the head of a family, or widow, or single man, over the age of twenty-one years, and being a citizen of the United States, or having filed his declaration of intention to become a citizen, as required by the naturalization laws, who since the first day of June A. D. eighteen hundred and forty, has made or shall hereafter make, a settlement in person on the public lands to which the Indian title had been, at the time of such settlement extinguished, and which has been, or shall have been surveyed prior thereto, and who shall inhabit and improve the same, and who has or shall erect a dwelling thereon, shall be and is hereby authorized to enter with the register of the land office for the district in which such land may lie, by legal subdivisions, any number of acres not exceeding one hundred and sixty, or a quarter section of land, to include the residence of such claimants, upon paying to the United States the minimum price of such land, subject however to the following limitations and exceptions: No person shall be entitled to more than one pre-emption right by virtue of this act; no person who is the proprietor of three hundred and twenty acres of land in any state or territory of the United States, and no person who shall quit or abandon his residence on his own land to reside on the public land in the same state or territory, shall acquire any right of pre-emption under this act; no lands included in any reservation, by any treaty, law, or proclamation of the President of the United States, or reserved for salines, or for other purposes; no lands reserved for the support of schools, nor the lands acquired by either of the two last treaties with the Miami tribe of Indians in the state of Indiana, or which may be acquired of the Wyandot tribe of Indians in the state of Ohio, or any Indian reservation to which the title has been or may be extinguished by the United States at any time during the operation of this act; no sections of land reserved to the United States alternate to other sections granted to any of the states for the construction of any canal, railroad or other public improvement; no sections, or fractions of sections included within the limits of any incorporated town; no portions of the public lands which have been selected as the site for a city or town, no parcel or lot of land actually settled and occupied for the purposes of trade and agriculture; and no lands on which are situated any known salines or mines, shall be liable to entry under and by virtue of the provisions of this act. And so much of the proviso of the act of June 22, 1838, or any order of the President of the United States, as

directs certain reservations to be made in favor of Dancing Rabbit creek, be, and the same is hereby repealed; *Provided* That such repeal shall not affect title to any tract of land secured in virtue of said treaty.

Sec. 11. *And be it further enacted*, That when two or more persons shall have settled on the same quarter section of land, the right of pre-emption shall be in him or her who made the first settlement, provided such persons shall conform to the other provisions of this act; and all questions as to the right of pre-emption arising between different settlers shall be settled by the register and receiver of the district within which the land is situated, subject to an appeal to and a revision by the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States.

Sec. 12. *And be it further enacted*, That prior to any entries being made under and by virtue of the provisions of this act, proof of the settlement and improvement thereby required, shall be made to the satisfaction of the register and receiver of the land district in which such lands may lie, agreeably to such rules as shall be prescribed by the Secretary, who shall each be entitled to receive fifty cents from each applicant for his services to be rendered as aforesaid; and all assignments and transfers of the right hereby secured prior to the issuing of the patent shall be null and void.

Sec. 13. *And be it further enacted*, That before any person claiming the benefit of this act shall be allowed to enter such lands, he or she shall make oath before the receiver or register of the land district in which the land is situated (who are hereby authorized to administer the same) that he or she has never had the benefit of any right of pre-emption under this act; that he is not the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land in any state or territory of the United States, nor hath he or she settled upon and improved said land to sell the same on speculation, but in good faith to appropriate it to his or her own exclusive use or benefit; and that he or she has not, directly or indirectly, made any agreement or contract, in any way or manner with any person or persons whatsoever, by which the title which he or she might acquire from the Government of the United States should inure, in whole or in part to the benefit of any person except himself or herself; and if any person taking such oath shall swear falsely in the premises, he or she shall be subject to all the pains and penalties of perjury, and shall forfeit the money which he or she may have paid for said land, and all right and title to the same; and any grant or conveyance which he or she may have made, except in the hands of bona fide purchasers, for a valuable consideration, shall be null and void. And it shall be the duty of the officer administering such oath to file a certificate thereof in the public land office of such district, and to transmit a copy to the General Land Office, either of which shall be good and sufficient evidence that such oath was administered according to law.

Sec. 14. *And be it further enacted*, That this act shall not delay the sale of any of the public lands of the United States beyond the time which has been or may be appointed by the proclamation of the President, nor shall the provisions of this act be available to any person or persons who shall fail to make the proof and payment, and file the affidavit required before the day appointed for the commencement of the sales as aforesaid.

Sec. 15. *And be it further enacted*, That whenever any person has settled or shall settle and improve a tract of land, subject at the time of settlement to private entry, and shall intend to purchase the same under the provisions of this act, such person shall in the first case, within three months after the passage of the same, and the last within thirty days next after the date of such settlement, file with the register of the proper district a written statement describing the land settled upon, and declaring the intention of such person to claim the same under the provisions of this act; and shall, where such settlement is already made, within twelve months after the passage of this act, and where it shall hereafter be made, within the same period after the date of such settlement, make the proof, affidavit and payment herein required; and if he or she shall fail to make such affidavit, proof and payment within the twelve months aforesaid, the tract of land so settled and improved shall be subject to the entry of any other purchaser.

Sec. 16. *And be it further enacted*, That the two per cent. of the net proceeds of the lands sold, or that may hereafter be sold by the United States in the State of Mississippi, since the first day of December, one thousand eight hundred and seventeen, and by the act entitled "An act to enable the people of the western part of the Mississippi Territory to form a Constitution and State Government, and for the admission of such state into the Union on an equal footing with the original States," and all acts supplementary thereto, reserved for the making of a road or roads leading to said State, be, and the same is hereby relinquished to the state of Mississippi, payable in two equal installments; the first to be paid on the first of May, one thousand eight hundred and forty-two, and the other on the first of May, one thousand eight hundred and forty-three, so far as the same may then have accrued, and quarterly as the same may accrue, after said period; *Provided*, That the Legislature of said state shall pass an act, declaring their acceptance of said relinquishment in full of said fund, accrued, accruing, and also embracing a provision to be unalterable without the consent of Congress, that the whole of said two per cent. fund shall be faithfully applied to the construction of a rail road, leading from Brandon in the state of Mississippi to the eastern boundary of said state, in the direction as near as may be, of the towns of Selma, Cahaba and Montgomery, in the state of Alabama.

Sec. 17. *And be it further enacted*, That the two per cent. of the net proceeds of the lands sold by the United States, in the state of Alabama, since the first of September, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, and reserved by the act entitled "An act to enable the People of the Alabama Territory to form a Constitution and state Government, and for the admission of such state into the Union on an equal footing with the original States," for the making of a road or roads leading to the said state, be, and the same is hereby, relinquished to the said state of Alabama, payable in two equal installments, the first to be paid on the

the first day of May one thousand eight hundred and forty-two, and the other on the first day of May, one thousand eight hundred and forty-three, so far as the same has accrued, and quarterly, as the same may hereafter accrue: *Provided*, That the Legislature of said state shall first pass an act declaring their acceptance of said relinquishment, and act embracing a provision, to be unalterable without the consent of Congress, that the whole of said two per cent fund shall be faithfully applied under the direction of the Legislature of Alabama, to the connexion, by some means of internal improvement of the navigable waters of the bay of Mobile with the Tennessee river, and to the construction of a continuous line of internal improvement from a point on the Chattahoochee river, opposite West Point, in Georgia, across the state of Alabama, in a direction to Jackson, in the state of Mississippi.

JOHN WHITE,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
SAM'L L. SOUTHWARD,
President of the Senate pro tempore.
Approved, September 1, 1841.
JOHN TYLER.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE DRUNKARD'S WIFE.

The following is an extract from a paper written by Elihu Burritt, the learned blacksmith of Worcester, Massachusetts.

"Influential woman is a being of scarcely two centuries: up to that period, and almost hitherto, her influence has fallen upon human character and society, like the feeble rays of rising winter upon polar fields of ice. But her sun is reaching upward. There is a glorious meridian to which she shall surely come, as to-morrow's rising sun shall reach his in our natural heavens. What man will be, when she shall shine on him then and thence we are unable to divine; but we can find an anticipation from the influences of her dawning rays. Her morning light has glided the visions of human hope, and silvered over the night shadows of human sorrow. There has been no depth to human misery beyond the reach of her ameliorating influence, nor any height of human happiness which she has not raised still higher.

Whether we trace the lineaments of her character, in the mild twilight of her morning sun, or in the living beams of her rising day, we find that she has touched human society like an angel. It would be irreverent to her worth to say in what walks of life she has walked most like an angel of light and love, in what vicissitudes, in what joys or sorrows, in what situations or circumstances she has most signally discharged the heavenly ministrations of her mission: what ordeals have best brought out the radiance of her hidden jewels: what fruits of earthly bliss, or furnaces of affliction, have best declared the fineness of her gold. Still there is a secret which has escaped 'the culture's eye,' and almost every other eye where she has cast forth her costliest pearls, and shown such qualities of her native character as almost to merit our adoration. This scene has been allotted to the drunkard's wife. How she has filled this most desperate outpost of humanity, will be revealed when the secret of human life shall be disclosed 'to more worlds than this.'

When the history of hovels, and of murky garrets shall be given in; when the career of the enslaved inebriate shall be told from the first to the lowest degree of his degradation,—there will be a memorial made of woman, worthy of being told and heard in heaven. From the first moment she gave up her young and hoping heart, and all its treasures into the hand of him she loved, to the luckless hour when the charmer, WINE, fastened around that loved one all the serpent spells of his sorcery,—down through all the crushing of her young born hopes,—through years of estrangement and strange insanity,—when harsh unkindness bit at her heart-strings with an adder's tooth,—thence down through each successive depth of disgrace and misery, until she bent over the drunkard's grave; through all these scenes a halo of divinity has gathered around her, and stirred her to angel deeds of love. When the maddened victim tried to cut him self adrift from the sympathy and society of God and man, she has clung to him, and bled him to her heart, 'with books of steel.'

And when he was cast out, all defiled by his evil pollution,—when he was reduced to such a thing as the beasts of the field would bellow at—there was one who kept him thronged in her heart of hearts, who could say over the fallen, drivelling creature, 'Altho' you are nothing to the world, you are all the world to me.' When that awful insanity of the drunkard sat in upon him, with all its fiendish shapes of torture, while he lay writhing beneath the scorpion stings of the fiery phantasies and furies of delirium tremens—there was woman by his side, enshrined with all the attributes of her loveliness.—There was her tearful, love-beaming eye, that never dimmed with tears when the black spirits were at him. There she stood alone, and in lone hours of night, to watch his breathings, with her heart braced up with the omnipotence of her love.

No! brute as he was, not a tie which his young heart had thrown around him in his bright days, had ever given away, but had grown stronger as he approached the nadir of his degradation. And if he sank into that dark, hopeless grave she enswathed him in her broken heart, and laid it in his coffin; or if some mighty angel's arm or voice brought him up from the grave of drunkenness, a desperate fug for man, she came forth Lazarus like, bound fast and forever within the embraces of her deathlike affection.

Such is her sceptre; such are the cords which she throws around the wayward and wandering, and leads him back to virtue, and to heaven, saying, as she gave him in: 'Here am I and him whom thou gavest me.'

THE WESTERN RAIL-ROAD.—The trains on the Western railroads have been running for some weeks past about 28 miles west of Connecticut river, to Chester Factories. A further portion of the road is now completed, and will be opened for use on Monday next, extending the daily travel on the road ten miles further, to the vicinity of the great cut at the summit.

This cut, it is anticipated, will be completed in three or four weeks more, when the whole of the Western railroad, from Worcester to the boundary line of the State, will be opened to the public travel.—Boston Daily Adv.

FROM THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

CONGRESSIONAL WHIG MEETING.

At a meeting of the Whig members of the Senate and House of Representatives of the 27th Congress of the United States, held in the city of Washington on the 11th September, 1841.—

The Hon. NATHAN F. DIXON, of Rhode Island, on the part of the Senate, and Hon. JEREMIAH MORROW, of Ohio, on the part of the House, were called to the Chair, and Kenneth Rayner, of North Carolina, Christopher Morgan, of New York, and Richard W. Thompson, of Indiana, were appointed Secretaries.

Mr. Mangum, of North Carolina, offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, That it is expedient for the Whigs of the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States to publish an address to the People of the United States, containing a succinct exposition of the prominent proceedings of the extra session of Congress, of the measures that have been adopted, and those in which they have failed, and the causes of such failure; together with such other matters as may exhibit the condition of the Whig party and Whig prospects.

Resolved, That a committee of three on the part of the Senate, and five on the part of the House, be appointed to prepare such Address, and submit it to a meeting of the Whigs on Monday morning next, the 13th instant, at half past eight o'clock.

And the question being taken on said resolutions, they were unanimously adopted.

Whereupon the following gentlemen were appointed said committee: Messrs. Berrien, of Georgia, Tallmadge of New York, and Smith, of Indiana, on the part of the Senate; and Messrs. Everett, of Vermont, Mason, of Ohio, Kennedy, of Maryland, John C. Clark, of New York, and Rayner, of North Carolina, on the part of the House.

When, on motion, the meeting adjourned, to meet again on Monday morning.

MONDAY, Sept. 13, 1841.

The meeting assembled pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Kennedy, of Md., from the committee appointed for that purpose, reported the following:

ADDRESS.
FELLOW-CITIZENS:—The Extra Session of Congress has at length been brought to a close. The incidents which belong to the history of this session, and especially those which have marked its termination, are of a nature to make so strong an impression upon the country, and to excite so much interest in the future action and relations of the Whig party, that the Whig Representatives in both Houses of Congress have thought it their duty before separating, to address their constituents with a brief exposition of the circumstances in which they conceive themselves to be placed by the events which have recently transpired.

This session of Congress was called as almost the first measure of that illustrious and lamented citizen whose election to the Presidency was no less significant of the general sentiment of condemnation of the acts of the preceding Administration, than it was expressive of a wish for an immediate and radical change in the public policy. The improvement of those who had just been expelled from power had rendered it inevitable; and the country hailed the meeting of a new Congress as the sure pledge of relief from all those evils which the disastrous incompetency of the men at the head of affairs had bro't upon it.

The People desired the early adoption of the policy which had been promised them by the Whig party. That policy had been brought to the consideration of the country throughout a contest of nearly twelve years duration, maintained with unexampled devotion; and its principles were illustrated by the precepts and practice of the most eminent and patriotic of our citizens in every form by which they were able to address to the intelligence of the People. No one misapprehended these principles; they were identified with the labors of that great party whose unparalleled success was both the token and the reward of the general confidence of the Nation. They promised reform—

1st. In the restraint of Executive power and patronage;

2d. In the wholesome regulation of the currency, and the advancement of the interests of industry; and

3d. In the establishment of an economical administration of the finances.

They proposed to accomplish the first of these objects by limiting the service of the President to a single term; by forbidding all officers of the Government from interfering in elections; and by a voluntary self denial, on the part of the Chief Magistrate, in that excessive use of the Veto power which had recently become so offensive to the country as an instrument of party supremacy.

They hoped to achieve their next object by the establishment of a National Bank; by an adjustment of the system of duties upon a moderate and permanent scale, adapted as nearly as practicable to the interest, and conformable with the views of every portion of the Union; by the establishment of a uniform system of bankruptcy; and by the distribution of the proceeds of the public lands amongst the States—a measure recommended not only by considerations of justice to the States themselves, but also by a sad experience of the embarrassment produced in the currency resulting from the administration of a fund of such variable amount as an item in the ordinary revenues of the Government. The establishment of an economical administration of the finances they expected to attain by cutting down all useless offices, by enforcing a strict accountability to the public agents, and more conspicuously, by making exact and adequate provisions for the ascertainment and eventual liquidation of that public debt which the past administration had created by permitting their expenditures to overrun their receipts, and which they had concealed from public observation by the easy

device of repeated issues of Government notes.

These were the prominent points to which the policy of the Whig party had been directed and which constituted the great issues before country in the recent Presidential election.—We are aware that our adversaries in that contest now deny these issues, founding their denial chiefly upon the fact that no formal manifesto was put forth to declare the terms upon which we insisted. We choose rather to appeal to the widely diffused knowledge of our principles which had been impressed upon every man's mind in that long struggle of years gone by; with which one party had been identified, and of which its very name was an exponent.

It need not be said that, in a representation spread over a territory of such an extent as that comprehended by our Union, and exhibiting interests so diversified, what might be called the characteristic principles of the Whig party, throughout this wide sphere, should be subject to occasional modifications, dependent upon local influences; and that it was incumbent, therefore, upon the party to move together in a spirit of mutual concession and accommodation of sectional difference of opinion.

It need not be told that, in the system of measures which we have enumerated, conflicting views might naturally exist between the Representatives of distant portions of our Republic, and that only by the yielding of minor interests to the establishment, of the general good entire harmony was to be obtained in the action of Congress. This was natural, and to be expected. But we felt a proud consciousness that in the patriotism of the party all these difficulties would vanish, and that the demands of an enlarged welfare would be met and fulfilled, through the virtues of that spirit of compromise and forbearance, that liberal and comprehensive sentiment of self-denial and concession, which rests at the heart of our confederacy, and which constitutes the living principles of our union. Before the appointed day arrived for the meeting of Congress, and at the expiration of but one short month from the date of its inauguration, our beloved President was snatched from us by the grasp of death: too soon for the happiness of his country, but not too soon to awaken in our bosoms a deep and awful sense of the irreparable loss which we have sustained in the deprivation of a great and good man—not too soon to convince us how long and how bitterly our country is doomed to deplore this heavy misfortune. In this our calamity, we hope to find consolation in the character and principles of him whom the Constitution had designated to fill the office of the departed chief. It is true, that towards that individual, even at the moment of his selection for the Vice Presidency, no very earnest public attention had been directed; and it is equally true that but a passing regard was bestowed upon the current of his previous life and opinions.

We only knew him as one professing to be a member of the Whig party, and as seeking to identify himself with those great leaders of that party whose opinions and principles were deeply engrained in the most conspicuous acts of our political history, and were read and understood by every citizen in the land. In this connection, where he had sought to be prominent, we discerned what we conceived, and what doubtless he meant, to be a pledge of faithful adherence to the cardinal doctrines for which we struggled, and with which the hopes of the country were indissolubly bound up.—We hoped to find consolation also in the fact, that his accession to the Presidency brought him into communion and intimate political fellowship with the chosen vanguard of the Whig party—the first selection made by General Harrison of a Cabinet, distinguished for its paramount ability, integrity, and fidelity to the glorious cause in which we had conquered—a Cabinet eminently crowned with the public confidence, in whom all men trusted as in the very embodiment of the principles of the party to which they belonged; who are inseparably associated with its glory, and its more generous and honorable relation to the President we had the security of prosperous councils, &c. the pledge of a co-operation which should enable him to accomplish all that the nation desired. These hopes were still further enlivened by the encouraging tone in which the President referred, in his first address to the nation, to the "ever glorious example" afforded him by the Fathers of the great Republican school, and the declaration of his determination to walk in the path which they pointed out.

In the indulgence of these hopes, Congress entered upon its labors. By adopting rules for the despatch of business conformable to the emergency of an extra session, and in view of the great amount of legislation which the times required, we have been enabled to achieve all, and even more than all, that our constituents could have demanded at our hands. The leading and great measures of his session have been under discussion, in Congress and out of it, for many years past, and little remained to be said beyond a reputation of former debates. There was nothing in the circumstances or position of either party in Congress to require, or even to justify, protracted discussions; and the majority, therefore, felt themselves entitled to give to the extra session the character of a Congress of action and decision, rather than one of debate; and we feel assured that in this effort we have done no more than respond to the just expectations of the People.

First in urgency amongst the bills past during the session, and that to which the public command most imperatively drew the notice of Congress, was the repeal of the sub-Treasury Law. Our next care was the enactment of the Land Bill. This was followed by an act converting the Debt which the preceding Administration had entailed upon the country into a Loan of twelve millions of dollars, which is limited for its redemption to a period of three years. Associated with this measure was the Revenue Bill, rendered necessary not only as a provision towards the extinguishment of the loan, but also as indispensable for the supply of means to meet the ordinary and necessary appropriations of the year. The Bankrupt Act, so earnestly and so long solicited by a large and meritorious class of our citizens, has been passed under circumstances which cannot but reflect the highest honor upon the Representatives of many sections of the country.